

Legislative Bulletin.....November 16, 2009

Contents:

H.R. 3767 - To designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 170 North Main Street in Smithfield, Utah, as the "W. Hazen Hillyard Post Office Building"

S. 1825 - A bill to extend the authority for relocation expenses test programs for Federal employees

H.R. 3539 - To designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 427 Harrison Avenue in Harrison, New Jersey, as the "Patricia D. McGinty-Juhl Post Office Building"

H.R. 1506 - To provide that claims of the United States to certain documents relating to Franklin Delano Roosevelt shall be treated as waived and relinquished in certain circumstances

S. 1314 - A bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 630 Northeast Killingsworth Avenue in Portland, Oregon, as the "Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Post Office"

H.R. 1242 - To amend the Emergency Economic Stabilization Act of 2008 to provide for additional monitoring and accountability of the Troubled Assets Relief Program

H.R. 3767 - To designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 170 North Main Street in Smithfield, Utah, as the "W. Hazen Hillyard Post Office Building." (Bishop, R-UT)

Order of Business: The bill is scheduled to be considered on Monday, November 16, 2009, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill.

Summary: H.R. 3767 would designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 170 North Main Street in Smithfield, Utah, as the "W. Hazen Hillyard Post Office Building."

Additional Information: W. Hazen Hillyard was born in Smithfield, Utah on June 6, 1893. He became Postmaster of Smithfield in 1934. At that time there was no delivery of the mail. As the population of Smithfield grew, Mr. Hillyard saw the need for larger postal facilities. In 1957 he was successful in getting a new, larger building for the post office. In 1963 he arranged for the city delivery of the mail to houses in Smithfield. Mr. Hillyard died on April 22, 1993, at the age of 99.

Committee Action: H.R. 3767 was introduced on October 8, 2009, and referred to the House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, the bill was considered en bloc and passed by voice vote.

Cost to Taxpayers: A CBO score for H.R. 3767 is unavailable, but the only costs associated with a U.S. federal building renaming are those for sign and map changes, none of which significantly affect the federal budget.

Does the Bill Expand the Size and Scope of the Federal Government?: No.

Does the Bill Contain Any New State-Government, Local-Government, or Private-Sector Mandates?: No.

Does the Bill Comply with House Rules Regarding Earmarks/Limited Tax Benefits/Limited Tariff Benefits?: A committee reporting citing compliance with the rules regarding earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits is not available. However, the resolution does not contain any earmarks.

Constitutional Authority: Although no committee report citing constitutional authority is available, Article I, Section 8, Clause 7 of the Constitution grants Congress the authority to establish Post Offices and post roads.

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S. 1825 - A bill to extend the authority for relocation expenses test programs for Federal employees (*Sen. Lieberman, ID-CT*)

Order of Business: The bill is scheduled to be considered on Monday, November 16, 2009, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the resolution.

Summary: S. 1825 gives the U.S. General Services Administration (GSA) authority to run programs testing various methods of compensating employees for relocation and travel expenses. The GSA's authority to authorize these programs is set to expire in December 2009. Currently the number of test programs is limited to 10, and this legislation expands this to 12, and allows them to operate for a maximum of eight years.

Committee Action: S. 1825 was introduced in the Senate on October 21, 2009 and passed the Senate on November 9, 2009 by unanimous consent. It was then referred to the House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform which took no public action.

Cost to Taxpayers: CBO estimates that this legislation would not have a significant impact on the federal budget.

Does the Bill Expand the Size and Scope of the Federal Government?: No.

Does the Bill Contain Any New State-Government, Local-Government, or Private-Sector Mandates?: No.

Does the Bill Comply with House Rules Regarding Earmarks/Limited Tax Benefits/Limited Tariff Benefits?: A committee reporting citing compliance with the rules regarding earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits is not available. However, the resolution does not contain any earmarks.

Constitutional Authority: A committee report citing constitutional authority is unavailable.

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H.R. 3539 – To designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 427 Harrison Avenue in Harris, New Jersey, as the “Patricia D. McGinty-Juhl Post Office Building.” *(Sires, D-NJ)*

Order of Business: The bill is scheduled to be considered on Monday, November 16, 2009, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill.

Summary: H.R. 3539 would designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 427 Harrison Avenue in Harris, New Jersey, as the “Patricia D. McGinty-Juhl Post Office Building.”

Additional Information: Patricia D. McGinty-Juhl was born and raised in Harrison, New Jersey and worked with the United States Postal Service for over 33 years. Patricia held a position in Government Relations serving as the Government Relations Liaison to Congressional offices. She worked with the USPS until her death on October 16, 2006.

Committee Action: H.R. 3539 was introduced on September 8, 2009, and referred to the House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, the bill was considered en bloc and passed by voice vote.

Cost to Taxpayers: A CBO score for H.R. 3539 is unavailable, but the only costs associated with a U.S. federal building renaming are those for sign and map changes, none of which significantly affect the federal budget.

Does the Bill Expand the Size and Scope of the Federal Government?: No.

Does the Bill Contain Any New State-Government, Local-Government, or Private-Sector Mandates?: No.

Does the Bill Comply with House Rules Regarding Earmarks/Limited Tax Benefits/Limited Tariff Benefits?: A committee reporting citing compliance with the rules regarding earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits is not available. However, the resolution does not contain any earmarks.

Constitutional Authority: Although no committee report citing constitutional authority is available, Article I, Section 8, Clause 7 of the Constitution grants Congress the authority to establish Post Offices and post roads.

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**H.R. 1506 – To provide that claims of the United States to certain documents relating to Franklin Delano Roosevelt shall be treated as waived and relinquished in certain circumstances.
(Slaughter, D-NY)**

Order of Business: The bill is scheduled to be considered on Monday, November 16, 2009, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the resolution.

Summary: The federal government is currently in negotiations with private parties regarding the ownership of the Tully Archive. Miss Grave Tully was President Roosevelt's personal secretary, and this archive contains around 5,000 documents, 100 personal letters, and other historical items. This legislation would surrender the government's claims to these documents so long as they are donated as gifts to the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA).

The donation to the NARA would provide a tax deduction for the private party that currently owns the document.

Committee Action: H.R. 1506 was introduced on March 12, 2009 referred to the House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, which held a markup of the bill.

Cost to Taxpayers: While the value of the tax deduction is unknown, CBO estimates that this legislation would have no significant net effect on federal revenues because the collection would most likely be donated at some point without the enactment of this bill.

Does the Bill Expand the Size and Scope of the Federal Government?: No.

Does the Bill Contain Any New State-Government, Local-Government, or Private-Sector Mandates?: No.

Does the Bill Comply with House Rules Regarding Earmarks/Limited Tax Benefits/Limited Tariff Benefits?: A committee reporting citing compliance with the rules regarding earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits is not available. However, the bill does not contain any earmarks.

Constitutional Authority: A committee report citing constitutional authority is unavailable.

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S. 1314 – A bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 630 Northeast Killingsworth Avenue in Portland, Oregon, as the “Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Post Office.”
(Sen. Wyden, D-OR)

Order of Business: The bill is scheduled to be considered on Monday, November 16, 2009, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the resolution.

Summary: S. 1314 designates the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 630 Northeast Killingsworth Avenue in Portland, Oregon, as the “Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Post Office.”

Additional Information: Martin Luther King, Jr. was a prominent leader in the civil rights movement and he has become a human rights icon. In 1963 he led a 250,000 person march on Washington where he delivered his “I Have a Dream” speech. At the age of 35, he was the youngest man to have received the Nobel Peace Prize. He died on April 4, 1968 in Memphis, Tennessee.

Committee Action: S. 1314 was introduced in the Senate on June 22, 2009, and passed the Senate on August 4, 2009 by unanimous consent.

Cost to Taxpayers: The resolution authorizes no expenditures.

Does the Bill Expand the Size and Scope of the Federal Government?: No.

Does the Bill Contain Any New State-Government, Local-Government, or Private-Sector Mandates?: No.

Does the Bill Comply with House Rules Regarding Earmarks/Limited Tax Benefits/Limited Tariff Benefits?: A committee reporting citing compliance with the rules regarding earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits is not available. However, the resolution does not contain any earmarks.

Constitutional Authority: A committee report citing constitutional authority is unavailable.

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H.R. 1242 - To amend the Emergency Economic Stabilization Act of 2008 to provide for additional monitoring and accountability of the Troubled Assets Relief Program. (Maloney, D-NY)

Order of Business: The bill is scheduled to be considered on Monday, November 16, 2009, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the resolution.

Summary: H.R. 1242 directs the Treasury Secretary to provide the Special Inspector General of the Trouble Asset Relief Program (TARP), the Comptroller General, and the Congressional Oversight Panel with ongoing and consistent, updates on the status of funds distributed by the Emergency Economic Stabilization Act of 2008 (EESA). This legislation creates a standardized electronic database that combines information from public and private sources to follow the status of funds distributed under EESA.

The Secretary is also required to collect from federal agencies any regulatory filings, internal models, and financial models that are associated with the financial assistance so that the Secretary may decide the effectiveness of TARP in strengthening bank capital.

If TARP goals are not being met, the Secretary is directed to work with those federal agencies who supplied the information in order to provide the recipients with recommendations. The Secretary would also be required to adjust the future uses of TARP assistance if the goals are not met even when recipients follow recommendations from the Secretary.

Additional Information: The RSC has introduced H.R. 3140 (The REBOUND Act) which would among other things end the TARP program. See [here](#) for additional information.

Committee Action: H.R. 1242 was introduced on March 2, 2009 and referred to the House Committee on Financial Services, which took no public action.

Cost to Taxpayers: A CBO score is unavailable.

Does the Bill Expand the Size and Scope of the Federal Government?: No.

Does the Bill Contain Any New State-Government, Local-Government, or Private-Sector Mandates?: No.

Does the Bill Comply with House Rules Regarding Earmarks/Limited Tax Benefits/Limited Tariff Benefits?: A committee reporting citing compliance with the rules regarding earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits is not available. However, the resolution does not contain any earmarks.

Constitutional Authority: A committee report citing constitutional authority is unavailable.

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